



Unleash data to give patients control of their healthcare information and, allow that data to follow them throughout their healthcare journey.

- CMS will ensure patients have unencumbered access to their health information, in a format that is practical, useable and easily shared. This will empower patients to be in control of their digital and personal health data so they can make good healthcare decisions.
- CMS will enable and empower patients to electronically securely share their health information with any provider, application or researcher they choose and that information will be in an open, standards based format that is commonly accepted and used across the healthcare system while also ensuring privacy and security.
- Seamless data sharing will not only increase efficiency and patient empowerment, but will also increase patient safety by reducing duplicate tests and conflicting medications.
- Seamless data sharing helps improve quality, reduce cost, put quality first and focus on results by ensuring that information necessary for delivery of or payment for care is readily available for anyone entitled to it in a usable format.
- CMS will bring an end to the days of trapping patient records in closed systems.

Our actions have delivered results

- Created Blue Button 2.0 to give beneficiaries the ability to securely connect their data to apps and other tools developed by innovative companies. Through Blue Button 2.0 beneficiaries can access their Medicare records and use this data in various applications from tracking appointments to health reminders. This information can be used to improve care coordination and increase positive health outcomes.
 - Currently, there are over 1,900 developers working on new apps to serve beneficiaries.
 - Ensuring the privacy and security of beneficiary data in Blue Button has been a priority from the beginning of this effort.
- Made Medicare Advantage encounter data available to researchers for the first time.
- Required clinicians and hospitals to adopt the 2015 Edition of certified EHR technology (CEHRT) because it will support API capabilities and will ultimately support improved patient access to their health records.
- Participated in the Da Vinci Project, a private-sector initiative led by HL7. In support of this project, the Medicare Fee-for-Service program has developed a prototype Documentation Requirements Lookup Service app for Medicare. The documentation lookup database contains a list of items and services for which prior authorization is required as well as documentation rules for oxygen and Continuous Positive Airway Pressure, or CPAP, devices.